

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending. Of those, claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12-16 and 18-20 stand rejected. The Examiner objects to claims 8, 11 and 17 but considers each claim allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the parent claim and any intervening claim. In view of the amendments made herein and the remarks that follow, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejection are requested.

Objection to Drawings

Responsive to the Examiner's objection to Figs. 3-5, Applicant submits herewith Replacement Sheets showing Figs. 3, 4a, 4b, 5a and 5b. No new matter is added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings are respectfully requested.

Claim Objection

The Examiner's objection to claims 2-3, 14 and 16 have been addressed by the amendments made herein. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim objections are respectfully requested.

Anticipation Rejection

Claims 1-7, 9-10, 12-16 and 18-20 stand rejected as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,690,028 to Wakimoto et al. ("Wakimoto"). Applicant respectfully submit that Wakimoto neither discloses nor suggest the claimed embodiments.

Claim 1, as amended herein, recites in pertinent portions: "a cathode layer coupled to display elements in the display area and to the power bus line of the first type through a first interconnect a power supply plane formed on the insulating layer connected to the power bus line of the second type through a second interconnect." As extensively

discussed in the specification, the claimed layout enables even distribution of power to the electroluminescent elements of the display. The reference to Wakimoto fails to disclose or suggest at least this feature of claim 1.

Wakimoto is directed to an organic diode having one or more hole transport layers on the anode side and one or more electron transport layers arranged on the cathode side. The hole transport layer and the electron transport layers are laminated together. Referring to Fig. 1, which was cited by the Office, Wakimoto shows substrate 1 with anode electrode 201, organic layer 202 and cathode layer 203. The cathode layer 203 and anode layer 201 are coupled to a power source. In Fig. 7, which was also cited by the Office, Wakimoto shows a similar arrangement as in Fig. 1 except that the organic layer 202 has been expanded and that electrode connection section 81 has been added to connect anode electrode 2 to cathode electrode 203. Wakimoto neither discloses nor suggest “a cathode layer coupled to display elements in the display area and to the power bus line of the first type through a first interconnect a power supply plane formed on the insulating layer connected to the power bus line of the second type through a second interconnect.” (Emphasis added.) In fact, the reference fails to disclose or suggest a “bus line” let alone communicating power to the bus line through an interconnect.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom are patentable over Wakimoto.

Independent claim 9, as amended herein, recites “the power supply plane provides even distribution of power to the display area through one or more via interconnects which electromagnetically couple the power supply plane to the display area.” (Emphasis added.) Wakimoto fails to disclose or suggest one or more via interconnects for electromagnetically coupling the power supply plane to the display area. Accordingly, independent claim 9 and all claims depending therefrom are patentable over Wakimoto.

Finally, independent claim 15 is amended to recite that the power supply plane provides even distribution of power “to the active display area through at least one or

more via interconnections.” Because Wakimoto fails to disclose or suggest at least this recitation, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claim 15 and all claims depending therefrom are patentable over the reference.

For these reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejection over Wakimoto are respectfully requested.

Allowable Claims

The Office Action, at paragraph 5, states that claims 8, 11 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner’s reasons for allowance are stated at paragraph 6 of the Office Action. Applicant agrees with the Examiner that each of claims 8, 11 and 17 are allowable. Applicant also notes that each claim is allowable for reasons other than those specifically stated by the Examiner. As abundantly clear from the file, there are several additional reasons for the allowance of each claim. The scope of the claims is only limited by the art and the Examiner’s failure to identify all such reasons shall not be construed against the Applicant by narrowing the novelty of each claim as characterized by the Office.

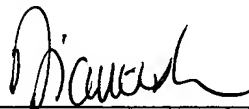
New claims 21, 22 and 23 have been added herein. Claim 21 incorporates the recitation of claims 1 and 8; new claim 22 incorporates the recitations of claims 9, 10 and 11; and new claim 23 incorporates the recitations of claims 15, 16 and 17. Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims, as well as all other claims, are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any issue relating to this application.

While an extension of time is not deemed necessary, the Office is requested and hereby authorized to charge the appropriate extension-of-time fees needed to maintain the application pending against Deposit Account No. 04-1679 to Duane Morris LLP.

Respectfully submitted,



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